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DE RUEHSF #0636 3101549
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P 061549Z NOV 09
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6459
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHSK/AMEMBASSY MINSK PRIORITY 0059

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 000636

SIPDIS

EUR/UMB FOR JOE WANG, EUR/ERA FOR RACHEL WOLFE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/05/2019

TAGS: BO BU EUN PHUM PREL

SUBJECT: BULGARIA: RESPONSE TO BELARUS SANCTIONS DEMARCHE

REF: SECSTATE 112644

Classified By: Political Officer Kelly Adams-Smith for reasons 1.4 (b)
and
(d)

¶1. (C) We delivered reftel demarche to Valentin Modev, Belarus Desk Officer at the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on November 5. Modev said Bulgaria favors a tough, but flexible approach to Belarus. On one hand, he said Bulgaria supports maintaining sanctions for another six months. On the other, he said Bulgaria supports continued EU negotiations with Belarus on a visa regime and the Eastern Partnership, as well as EU engagement with Belarusian civil society.

ORDWAY